

Acquisition Reform Success Story



Wind Corrected Munitions Dispenser (WCMD)

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Program Description

The WCMD program provides a replacement tail kit for inventory area dispenser munitions: Combined Effects Munitions, Gator, and Sensor Fuzed Weapon. WCMD uses inertial navigation to correct for launch transients and wind effects, providing the Air Force with a first time capability to deliver area munitions accurately from medium to high altitude(s). This significant force multiplier will be employed on the B-1, B-52, F-15, F-16, and F-117.

How Streamlining Made a Difference

WCMD, an ACAT II program with a staff of 20 people, adopted an integrated product development approach and treated cost as an independent variable. With only the warfighters' key performance parameters sacred, the contractor was free to trade requirements against system affordability. As part of the "Fly Before You Buy" philosophy both competing WCMD designs were dropped during the same sortie thereby testing both designs under identical conditions. This innovative approach reduced the number of required sorties by 50% and saved \$1.5M. Unit price and system performance parameters were based on hardware configurations and flight test results achieved during EMD. From the beginning, WCMD embraced the principle of performance based contracting. The contractor was allowed to write his own Statement of Work and System Specification without the constraints of MIL-STDs and Government "how-to" direction. Each of the program's key performance parameters and ORD requirements are being met or bettered.

Measure	From	To
Early B-52 Capability	4th Qtr FY '99	Apr '99
Average Unit Procurement Price (BY 94)	\$25,000	< \$10K
Accuracy (CEP) requirement	100 feet	< 85 feet
Warranty (in container/out of container)	10 yrs. / 2 yrs.	20 yrs./ 5 yrs.

Bottom Line: WCMD improved accuracy and warranty coverage over the ORD requirement (doing it **better**), will deliver weapons to the warfighter 5 months ahead of the ORD need date (doing it **faster**), with an AUPPR 64% lower than originally projected (doing it **cheaper**), and without burdensome government oversight (doing it **smoother**)!